

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

Number: WIAB02-78

Date: April 15, 2003

Expiration Date: 6/30/04

69:63:jcb:6987

TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: IDENTITY THEFT

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide awareness about the growing crime of identity theft. Identity theft occurs when an individual uses stolen personal information, such as a Social Security number, to commit fraud or theft. According to the Social Security Administration, identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America.

In order to reduce the risk of identity theft, it is important for the business community to implement and follow better information handling processes. When businesses are obtaining personal information, they should consider whether or not the information requested is necessary and if it is being acquired in a safe manner. To assist organizations in reviewing and revising their information-handling practices to ensure the protection of individual privacy, the California Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Privacy Protection has published [Recommended Practices for Protecting the Confidentiality of Social Security Numbers](#). Further information regarding protecting against identity theft can be obtained by visiting the Office of Privacy Protection's Web site at [www.privacy.ca.gov](http://www.privacy.ca.gov).

The following are a few additional resources regarding identity theft:

[Federal Trade Commission Identity Theft Information](#)

[Identity Theft Resource Center](#)

[Identity Theft: When Bad Things Happen to Your Good Name](#)

[Office of the California Attorney General – Identify Theft](#)

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please contact your [Regional Advisor](#) at (916) 653-6347.

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